

Monthly Update

Net Generation Year-to-Date 2002

During the first 10 months of the year, total U.S. net generation of electricity was 3,222 billion kilowatthours, 1 percent above what was reported for the corresponding period in 2001. Fifty percent of the generation was produced by coal-fired plants. This was followed by 20 percent from nuclear, 19 percent from gas, 7 percent from hydro, 2 percent from petroleum, and 2 percent from renewables.

Net Generation and Utility Retail Sales—October 2002

Net Generation. Total U.S. net generation of electricity was 307 billion kilowatthours, 4 percent above the amount reported in October 2001. Electric utilities generated 202 billion kilowatthours (66 percent of total generation) and nonutility power producers generated 105 billion kilowatthours (34 percent of total generation). At utilities, fossil fuels (primarily coal) accounted for 73 percent of net generation, followed by 19 percent from nuclear and 7 percent from renewable resources (including hydro). At nonutilities, fossil fuels (primarily gas) accounted for 72 percent of total generation, followed by 20 percent from nuclear, and 8 percent from renewables (including hydro).

Utility Retail Sales. Total sales of electricity to ultimate consumers in the United States were 284 billion kilowatthours, 17 billion kilowatthours (6 percent) more than

reported in October 2001. The residential sector had sales of 94 billion kilowatthours, 10 percent more than reported in October 2001. Retail sales in the commercial were 6 percent more than reported a year ago. Sales in the industrial sector were 2 percent more than reported a year ago.

Utility Fuel Receipts, Costs, and Quality—September 2002

Coal. Receipts of coal at electric utilities totaled 58 million short tons, nearly the same amount as reported in September 2001. The year 2002 9-month weighted average cost for coal was \$1.22 per million Btu. Data for several utilities were not available at the time of publication. In addition, data for Central Power & Light Company, Texas Utilities Electric Company, and West Texas Utilities are no longer included in this data series due to deregulation in Texas in 2002.

Petroleum and Gas. Receipts of petroleum totaled 4 million barrels, down 3 million barrels from the level reported in September 2001. Gas receipts totaled 165 billion cubic feet (Bcf), down from 207 Bcf reported in September 2001. Year-to-year comparisons of gas and petroleum receipts were affected by the transfer of plants to the nonutility sector as well as an increase in the number of nonrespondents. The year 2002 9-month weighted average cost for petroleum was \$3.55 per million Btu, and the cost for natural gas was \$3.49 per million Btu.